

## SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN.

THE NEW MEXICAN PRINTING COMPANY PUBLISHERS.  
**PAUL A. F. WALTER**  
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Entered as Second Class Matter at the Santa Fe Postoffice.

**RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.**  
 Daily, six months, by mail .....\$3.75  
 Daily, per week by carrier.....\$ .20  
 Daily, per month, by carrier..... .75  
 Daily, per month, by mail..... .65  
 Daily, per year, by mail..... 7.00  
 Weekly, per year..... 2.00  
 Weekly, six months ..... 1.00  
 Weekly, per quarter ..... .75

## OFFICIAL PAPER OF SANTA FE COUNTY.

The New Mexican is the oldest newspaper in New Mexico. It is sent to every postoffice in the Territory, and has a large and growing circulation among the intelligent and progressive people of the Southwest.



## TRYING HARD TO BE JUST.

The Los Angeles Times in a recent editorial on statehood, tries hard to be just, to represent conditions in New Mexico just as they are, but even it fails in some respects, although it should have knowledge from first hand. New Mexico's public schools have attained as high a standard as those of other western states; some of its mines are worth while and not too insignificant to be considered, the great majority of jurors can speak English, although Spanish may be more fluently spoken by the older men and its population is 325,000. The Los Angeles Times speaks of the New Mexico of ten or twenty years ago, not the New Mexico of today. Yet, the editorial is worth reproducing to show the necessity of the Territory advertising its advancement, especially the advancement that has come within the past five years. Says the Times:

"Ever since 1850 this Territory has been an applicant with more or less regularity and persistency for statehood. It will knock at the door again at the next regular session of Congress. The Territory was ceded by Mexico under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo at the close of the Mexican war, except for a small part of the southwest parts of Dona Ana, Luna and Grant counties, which came in under the Gadsden Purchase with all southern Arizona.

"In his first annual message to Congress, President Zachary Taylor spoke of New Mexico as an applicant for statehood, and recommended its admission. A convention was held and a constitution adopted. The slavery question, however, and the fear that the people were not fitted for statehood, caused its rejection. The second of these objections has kept New Mexico out ever since, although its population is close to 200,000, and more than that of the other Territories when admitted, excepting Utah.

"When the United States annexed the distant Philippines, one of the federal government's first acts was to provide for public education, and what is being accomplished is a source of pride to Americans. New Mexico needed such aid as much or even more, perhaps than the Philippines, for there were colleges and universities established by the Spanish missionaries in Manila, while New Mexico had scarcely even an apology for a school system, yet what did the U. S. government do for education? Practically nothing, absolutely nothing beyond the aid extended in all states to such institutions as agricultural colleges, of which New Mexico has had the benefit during the last sixteen years. For primary and high schools the people have had to depend entirely upon themselves. All things considered, they have done fairly, although their school system is inferior to that of some states. For many years after the annexation the only college or high school was St. Michael's at Santa Fe, conducted by the Christian Brothers and established by the late Bishop Lamy, to the support of which the government gave nothing.

"While much has been made of the illiteracy of a large portion of the native population, it is doubtful if the percentage is any greater than that of many southern states. The fact that the common language is Spanish serves to emphasize delinquencies in English branches.

"English and Spanish are, and always have been, officially recognized in courts, legislature and all public business. In the courts every word spoken, except when a trial is before the court alone with only English-speaking people interested, must be interpreted from one language to the other by an official interpreter. Laws, ballots and legal notices are printed in both English and Spanish. In some counties juries are usually composed largely or even wholly of men who do not speak a word of English. There seems to be no reason, however, to assert that they are inferior to others as jurors on this account. Indeed, their verdicts compare very favorably throughout. Stories have been printed in some outside paper making charges that show gross ignorance of these people and do them great injustice.

"The government of New Mexico under the territorial system has been generally excellent. The officials appointed by the President, with a few exceptions, have been good men. A few serious scandals have occurred. The local officers, whether natives or others, chosen by popular vote—almost wholly native in many countries—have been such usually as to compare favorably with those in most

states. Such legislative scandals as have occurred are such as are unfortunately too common elsewhere, such as that over patronage wherever it is not restrained by constitutional enactment. The only statute passed that was vetoed by Congress was the bill to incorporate the Jesuits.

"Unlike Arizona, New Mexico is an agricultural and sheep country, not a mining region. Its developed mines, except coal, are too insignificant to be considered. Within the last few years quite a number of railroads, such as the El Paso & Southwestern, the Rock Island, the Santa Fe Central, and the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe's Belen cut-off, have opened vast areas and afforded communication between various parts of the Territory, so that it is making good advances. The building of huge irrigation works by the United States reclamation service in the Mesilla valley is doing great things for the advancement of a rich agricultural country long kept back by the lack of water caused by the erection of big irrigation works in Colorado on the Rio Grande."

## DRAIN ON THE NATION'S FORESTS.

"The total yearly drain upon our forests, not counting losses from fires, storms, and insects, is some twenty billion cubic feet," says R. S. Kellogg, assistant forester in charge of the office of forest statistics, in a publication just issued by the forest service on "The Timber Supply of the United States."

"Our present forest area of 550 million acres may be roughly estimated to consist of 200 million acres of mature forests, in which the annual growth is balanced by death and decay, of 250 million acres partially cut or burned over, on which, with reasonable care, there is sufficient young growth to produce in the course of time a merchantable, but not a full crop of timber, and 100 million acres of more severely cut and burned over forests, on which there is not sufficient young growth to produce another crop of much value.

"Taken as a whole, the annual growth of our forests under these conditions does not exceed twelve cubic feet per acre, a total of less than seven billion cubic feet. That is, we are cutting our forests three times as fast as they are growing. There is menace in the continuance of such conditions. While we might never reach absolute timber exhaustion, the unrestricted exploitation of our forests in the past has already had serious effects, and it will have much worse if it is allowed to continue unchecked.

"While pine, for instance, which was once considered inexhaustible, has fallen off seventy per cent in cut since 1890, and more than forty-five per cent since 1900. The cut of oak, our most valuable hardwood lumber, has decreased sixteen per cent since 1900, and that of yellow poplar twenty-two per cent. The same story will be told of other woods if they are not conserved.

"The fact that timber has been cheap and abundant has made us careless of its production and reckless in its use. We take 250 cubic feet of wood per capita annually from our forests, while Germany uses only thirty-seven cubic feet, and France but twenty-five. On the other hand, Germany, who has learned her lesson, makes her state forests produce an average of forty-eight cubic feet of wood per acre. We have as fast-growing species as Germany, or faster, and as good or better forest soil if we protect it.

"The necessity for more farm land may eventually reduce our total forest area to 100 million acres less than it is at present. It is entirely possible, however, to produce on 450 million acres as much wood as a population much greater than we have now will really need if all the forest land is brought to its highest producing capacity and if the product is economically and completely utilized. But to reach the necessary condition of equilibrium between timber production and consumption will take many years of vigorous efforts by individual forest owners, by the states, and by the national government. None of them can solve the problem alone; all must work together."

It would not be a bad idea for the New Mexico special train to capture President Taft at Grand Canon in true western style and to carry him into Albuquerque triumphantly several hours before scheduled time. Some means should be found to show him the Duke City and the Rio Grande valley by daylight.

## A FRIEND IN NEED.

Taos promises to stay with Santa Fe in the capital fight and it is help that counts, and is appreciated. In the meanwhile, Santa Fe must, during the next ten years, do all in its power to show itself worthy of being the capital of the great Sunshine state, it must clean and spruce up, must modernize and must begin the work by voting on Saturday to be a "Greater Santa Fe" than it has been ever before. Says the Taos Valley News:

"The provision in the statehood bill providing that the capital shall remain as at present until 1915 and then the question shall be submitted to a vote of the people, will make lively times in the Territory, and the fight for possession will be a warm and lively one. Somehow we had never thought of any other capital than old Santa Fe, and the suggestion came to us with something of a shock. Of course Taos is out of it as a candidate, but by the year 1915 she is going to be a much larger factor, numerically, in territorial affairs than now. Just looking at the thing from this angle, which of course, may shift later, we can't help feeling that the old city, with its romantic and historic associations, so long known as New Mexico's capital ought always to be the capital."

One way of forcing success on a dry farm even in so unfavorable a year as this is told by the Grady Gazette when it says:

"I have in mind one so-called dry farmer who has put in a little irrigation plant, the motive power of which is a ten-foot windmill, which he would have to have anyhow. With a dirt tank he will this year successfully irrigate five acres, and he told me the other day that besides providing for his own family he would this year net over \$100 an acre on his stuff all of which would have to be hauled twelve miles to market. It entails work, of course. He has 'kept the harrow going.' There isn't either a weed or a clod on his place. Instead of flooding his land, the water goes in in little furrows, striking the exact spot where it is wanted—and the harrow follows right after the water, so that all of it is held in the soil. That is the California way, where they have learned to get all of the blessing out of water. It is possible on every homestead from Clayton to Pecos City. Generally adopted, it would stop all worry about dry years, and on normal years, the dry farmer would have a much greater margin of profit, investment considered, than the ditch farmer."

In a third article of a serial on the bean bug, the Taos Valley News announces a remedy for the pestiferous visitor that is cheap and worth while trying, especially around Santa Fe where lime may be had for the hauling from the hills, for around Santa Fe there are mountains of almost pure lime. Says the News:

"There is no need of any one from Washington coming out here, inasmuch as three miles from Taos is an abundance of simple and sure eradicator. It is just plain lime, fresh or air slacked, used in powdered or liquid form. It has been tried here and with complete success, as no bug enjoys dining on lime, nor can they live in it. The method is to sprinkle the lime over the plants, and on the ground about them in a very thorough manner. There is no danger of using too much. Try this on troublesome insects, and in the spring get a good supply of lime and invite the bug kingdom to a banquet. After the feast they will go to some other place where they do not serve lime sauce on vegetables. In addition to being a fine bug destroyer there is no better fertilizer than lime, so a copious use of it can do no harm. Fortunately we have at our door an abundant supply of high grade lime."

It is fortunate for New Mexico, and the Republican party in particular, that there is no truth to the rumor that Territorial Secretary Jaffa intends to resign. Mr. Jaffa is one of the few officials whose scalp is not sought by others and whose resignation is not desired by any one. He is giving good service as an official, he is loyal as a Republican, but best of all, he is esteemed as a citizen and as a business man. He is as popular in Santa Fe as he is in Roswell, and is esteemed as highly in Albuquerque as he is in Las Vegas. Wherever he has lived or has been actively engaged he has made a host of friends and he is today easily the man with the fewest enemies in New Mexico's public life—in fact, the New Mexican has yet to hear an adverse criticism of him officially or as a citizen.

The report that Panama has been visited by a severe earthquake, sounds rather ominous. With millions being spent by Uncle Sam on a canal that may any minute be twisted out of shape and usefulness by the force of nature, there is apt to be uneasiness whenever the telegraph reports that the earth is trembling in the vicinity of the waist line of the two continents.

According to the Amistad and Clayton papers, Clayton is booming and is fast coming to the front as a modern city. An especial feature alluded to is the work of laying cement sidewalks. Other towns, like Silver City and Las Cruces, are rapidly extending their sidewalks even into the suburbs and Santa Fe should not lag behind in this movement.

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